

Kerr came to when I was on duty at the east door of the House of Representatives, and, calling me to the steps leading near the doorway, said:—

"Harney, I will take that money now."

I gave him the money, which he put into his pocket, and remarked he was going to the War Department to make the appointment.

Q. How many times did you go to see Mr. Kerr? A. Three times altogether; Greene accompanied me once to Mr. Kerr's room.

Q. Did you have anything to do with Greene's introduction to Mr. Kerr? A. I think I introduced Greene to Mr. Kerr in the hall of the House.

Q. How long was it after the introduction that you made the arrangement? A. Within ten days; Mr. Kerr never, to my knowledge, spoke to Greene about money matters; Mr. Kerr lived on a street (I have forgotten the name) next to Pennsylvania avenue on the left; he occupied a large back room, where the interview took place.

Q. When did you first disclose the circumstances affecting the subject of this investigation? A. It was in the Appraiser's office, and to William A. Darling, one of the most honest of men (laughter); yes, he was honest, for he never sold an appointment and never took a cent of money for what he had done; the newspapers had been dealing harshly with Mr. Darling and making a personal attack on me; I made an allusion to the democrats at Washington who were engaged in the business of investigating, saying they were attacking republicans; when I mentioned these matters more fully than they were, about two months ago Mr. Moore called me in the Appraiser's office and showed me a copy of the anonymous letter written to Mr. Kerr; I told Mr. Moore I knew nothing of the author of it directly, directly; I further said, "I know Speaker Kerr to be a fine gentleman;" Moore said that Mr. Kerr would have a committee to investigate the matter and the sooner the better; I did not want to come before this committee but I did so because the newspapers slandered me and I said I was hiding away and was bought up.

THE CROSS-EXAMINATION.

R. K. Elliot, counsel for Mr. Kerr, then at length cross-examined the witness, who said he was born in Westchester county, N. Y.; was forty-eight years old, and had no business at the present time; he had been a republican ever since the party had an existence; he never before the time mentioned approached Mr. Kerr for an appointment; he was on the boat of terms with him; he knew his kind of friendly regard; Mr. Kerr knew his name and called him by it; the extent of their intimacy was that they passed the time of day when they met. Greene knew he must pay for the place, as that was the only way to obtain it; the reason why he thought Mr. Kerr ought to have paid was that he had no claims on him; he, therefore, called on Mr. Kerr to get the place the best way he could; he did not apply to other members because the places under their control were filled; he did not mention money to Mr. Kerr at the first interview, nor did he think that Mr. Kerr supposed he was going to tell to others the confidential transactions between them; he, however, had intimated to Mr. Kerr that he would reward him for his trouble; when Mr. Kerr received the money he said he would go to the War Department and have the appointment made right away; pending the appointment Mr. Kerr said it was all right; the relations between William A. Darling and himself were of honesty and friendship.

Q. How long has the honesty existed? A. Always.

Q. Being further cross-examined the witness said there was always a mystery as to how Greene obtained the appointment through him; everybody was talking about it; he thought that inside of a year he had confidentially given the facts in the case to William A. Darling, who may have repeated them to somebody outside.

Q. Did you tell Greene you paid Mr. Kerr money? A. He knew it.

Q. How? A. Because he had confidence in my word; the witness said he did not give Greene a receipt for the money handed to him, nor did he take a receipt when he paid it out.

Q. Did Mr. Kerr enjoin confidence on you in the alleged transaction? A. Yes; Mr. Kerr said it was confidential; the interview with Mr. Kerr about Greene was the last he had ever held with him on that subject.

Q. You have said the money you paid Mr. Kerr was in currency, \$5, \$10 and \$20 bills. A. Yes; Greene took it from his pocket, I put it into my pocket and I gave it to Mr. Kerr, who put it into his pocket (laughter).

Q. Did you not put the money into your own pocket? A. I have sworn to the truth, as there is a God in heaven.

Q. Have you ever been indicted for any crime? A. No.

R. K. Elliot, after further proceedings, said he wished to read over the testimony, both in chief and cross-examinations, before going further.

Representative Clymer said the witness would be recalled on the cross-examination.

Representative Danford interrogated the witness, who said his first interview with Greene took place in Washington; Greene authorized him to say he would pay money for the appointment, as he had tried and could not obtain the place in any other way; the anonymous letter addressed to Mr. Kerr mentioned the charge that the witness had paid money to Mr. Kerr; several parties—newspaper men included—had pursued him, but he declined to talk about the matter to them.

Representative Clymer—You never said that District Attorney Bliss and Darling crowded you and that there was great pressure to induce you to make the statement?

The witness denied that he had said so.

Q. Did you not say that rather than make this statement you would resign the place you held in the Appraiser's office? A. Yes.

Q. Was not the pressure intended to make you give a statement or clear out of office? A. I did not care for the \$1,500 salary, as I can obtain employment outside.

Q. Did you not make your first statement rather as a threat to ingratiate yourself in the favor of your employers? A. There was no occasion for that.

STATEMENT OF MR. KERR.

The examination for to-day being at an end, Speaker Kerr remarked that he did not want to retire without saying a few words, and asked to be sworn. This having been done, he said:—

"I only want to remark to-day that I deny every material statement made by this witness affecting my personal honor and official integrity; that is all. If I were in sufficient health I would make a statement of the circumstances which led to this investigation in connection with the anonymous letter I received; but I do not feel able to do so to-day. I will further say, consciously, I never knew this witness in my life; but I do not say, nor wish to be understood as saying, that he did not introduce Greene to me. I do not know six doorkeepers about this House now, though they are supposed to be my political friends. I never consciously exchanged one minute's conversation between heaven and earth with that person. I never knew him, and he was never at my room, as he has stated; and, of course, I never received any money from him nor from any one else.

PAPERS PRODUCED.

Mr. Crosby, Chief Clerk of the War Department, produced papers relative to Augustus P. Greene. The first was a descriptive list, dated June 12, 1866, and signed by Mr. Kerr recommending Greene to be appointed second lieutenant in the army and certifying that Greene was personally known to him as a person of good character, and that he believed Greene was, mentally, morally and physically, qualified to perform the duty of a lieutenant in the United States army.

The next paper produced was also dated June 12, 1866, and was from Nelson Taylor, addressed to the War Department, asking the return of the papers he had held in behalf of Greene. These papers were returned and afterward given by Greene to Mr. Kerr.

The next was as follows:—

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. }
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 18, 1876. }
General E. D. TOWNSEND, Assistant General.— }
MY DEAR SIR—May I trouble you to inform me whether there is now in the army a man named Augustus P. Greene, of the rank of first lieutenant or any higher rank, and if such person is not in the army now, whether he was within the last four or five years, and how he got out. Your attention will be greatly obliged me. I have the honor to be, very truly yours,
M. C. KERR.

To this the Assistant General replied that Augustus P. Greene was a first lieutenant in the Fourth artillery, and was dismissed the service by sentence of court martial, March 28, 1873. He was appointed in the regular army, July 30, 1866. He had previously served as an officer of volunteers.

The committee adjourned until Wednesday afternoon, as one o'clock.

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